Erik Lin-Greenberg

eriklg@mit.edu | www.eriklg.com | @eriklg

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, *Cambridge, MA*
Associate Professor (without tenure), Political Science (2024-Present)
Assistant Professor, Political Science (2020-2024)
Co-Director, MIT SSP Wargaming Lab (2023-Present)
Leo Marx Career Development Chair in the History and Culture of Science and Technology (July 2022-July 2025)

Harvard University, *Cambridge, MA*
Visiting Scholar, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs (2025-2026)

Dartmouth College, *Hanover, NH*
Niehaus Fellow in U.S. Foreign Policy and International Security, Dickey Center (2022-2023)

University of Pennsylvania, *Philadelphia, PA*
Postdoctoral Fellow, Perry World House (2019-2020)

Stanford University, *Stanford, CA*
Affiliate, Center for International Security and Cooperation (2019-Present)
Carnegie Predoctoral Fellow, Center for International Security and Cooperation (2018-2019)

EDUCATION

Columbia University, *New York, NY*
Ph.D. Political Science, 2019
Dissertation: *Remote Controlled Restraint: The Effect of Remote Warfighting Technology on Crisis Escalation*
APSA Merze Tate Award for best dissertation in international relations, law, and politics. 2020.

M. Phil. Political Science, 2016
M.A. Political Science, 2014

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, *Cambridge, MA*
M.S. Political Science, 2009
B.S. Political Science, 2009

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2025. *The Remote Revolution: Drones and Modern Statecraft* (Cornell University Press).
Best Book Award, Conflict Processes Section, American Political Science Association. 2026.
Best Book Award, Foreign Policy Section, American Political Science Association. 2026.

A World Without Secrets: International Politics in an Age of Transparency (Book Manuscript, In Progress). With Theo Milonopoulos.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

2026. "Technology-Enabled Transparency: International Politics in an Age of Eroding Secrecy." *International Security* (Forthcoming). With Theo Milonopoulos.

2026. "Corporations in the Crosshairs: Commercial Actors, Conflict Escalation, and Crisis Simulation." *Simulation and Gaming*, Vol. 57, No. 2. With Benjamin Harris and Daniel Cebul*

2025. "Is a Picture Worth 280 Characters?: Contextually Realistic Graphics vs. Plain Text in Survey Experiments." *Journal of Experimental Political Science*, Vol. 12. No. 2. With Benjamin Harris.*

2024. "Cheap Tweets?: Crisis Signaling in the Age of Twitter," *International Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 68. No. 2. With Benjamin Harris.*

2023. "Evaluating Escalation: Conceptualizing Escalation in an Era of Emerging Military Technologies," *Journal of Politics*, Vol. 85. No. 3.

2022. "Wargame of Drones: Remotely Piloted Aircraft and Crisis Escalation," *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Vol. 66. No. 10.

2022. "Algorithms and Influence: Artificial Intelligence and Crisis Decision-making," *International Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 66. No. 4. With Michael Horowitz.

2022. "Wargaming for International Relations Research," *European Journal of International Relations*, Vol. 28. No. 1. With Reid Pauly and Jacquelyn Schneider.
Reviewed in *H-Diplo.*

2022. "Trivial Tripwires?: Military Capability and Alliance Reassurance," *Security Studies*, Vol. 33. No. 1. With Brian Blankenship.

2021. "Soldiers, Pollsters, and International Crises: Public Opinion and the Military's Advice on the Use of Force," *Foreign Policy Analysis*, Vol. 17, No. 3.

2021. "Private Eyes in the Sky: Emerging Technology and the Political Consequences of Eroding Government Secrecy," *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Vol. 65, No. 6. With Theo Milonopoulos.

2020. "Allies and Artificial Intelligence: Obstacles to Operations and Decision-making," *Texas National Security Review*, Vol. 3, No. 2.

2019. "Backing Up, Not Backing Down: Mitigating Audience Costs Through Policy Substitution," *Journal of Peace Research*, Vol. 56, No. 4.

2019. "Non-Citizen Soldiers: Explaining Foreign Recruitment by Modern State Militaries," *Security Studies*, Vol. 28, No 2. With Kolby Hanson.

2018. "Non-Traditional Security Dilemmas: Can Military Operations Other Than War Intensify Security Competition in Asia?," *Asian Security*, Vol. 14, No. 3.

2011. "Air Power in Peace Operations: Reexamined," *International Peacekeeping*, Vol. 18, No. 4.

2010. "Dragon Boats: Assessing China's Participation in Horn of Africa Anti-Piracy Operations," *Defense and Security Analysis*, Vol. 26, No. 2.

2007. "Offensive Airpower with Chinese Characteristics: Development, Capabilities, and Intentions," *Air and Space Power Journal*, Vol. 21, No. 3. [Reprinted in Chinese, Portuguese, and Spanish.]

* *Indicates graduate student coauthor*

Other Peer Reviewed Writing

2021. "Wrestling with Killer Robots: The Benefits and Challenges of Military AI Use," *MIT Case Studies in Social and Ethical Responsibilities of Computing.*

Monograph

2026. *Corporations Under Fire: Insights on Government-Commercial Interplay from a Crisis Wargame*. (MIT Wargaming Lab) With Benjamin N. Harris.

Policy Writing and Commentary

2026. "The Ambiguity Spiral: How Washington's Lack of Clarity Leads to Escalation," *Foreign Affairs* (Online), 31 July.

2025. "Ukraine's smart munitions deliver a punch – and a warning about the future of warfare," *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* (Online), 13 June.

2024. "Wars are not Accidents: Managing Risk in the Face of Escalation," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 103, No 6. (November/December).

2024. "The Tradeoffs of Transparency: How Commercial Intelligence Enables—and Inhibits—National Security Outcomes," *The Republic*, Vol. 1, No 1. With Theo Milonopoulos.

2022. "The Dawn of Drone Diplomacy: Unmanned Aircraft are Upending the Arms Trade—and the Balance of Power," *Foreign Affairs* (Online), 20 December.

2022. "Tripwires and Alliance Reassurance: An Exchange - The Authors Reply," *Security Studies*. With Brian Blankenship.

2022. "Boots on the Ground, Eyes in the Sky: How Commercial Satellites are Upending Conflict," *Foreign Affairs* (Online), 30 May. With Theo Milonopoulos.

2021. "Private Eyes in the Sky: How Commercial Satellites are Transforming Intelligence," *Foreign Affairs* (Online), 23 September. With Theo Milonopoulos.

2021. "Commercial Satellites—not U.S. intelligence—Revealed China's Missile Program," Monkey Cage, *The Washington Post* (Online), 3 August. With Theo Milonopoulos.

2020. "Integrating Emerging Technology in Multinational Military Operations," *Texas National Security Review*, 3 June.

2019. "Trump is Playing Iran's Game of Drones," *Foreign Policy* (Online), 20 June.

2019. "Game of Drones: What Experimental Wargames Reveal About Drones and Escalation," *War on the Rocks*, 10 January.

2018. "Rethinking Reassurance," *Political Violence @ A Glance*, 13 November. With Brian Blankenship.

2018. "Why Washington's New Drone Export Policy is Good for National Security," *War on the Rocks*, 24 April.

2017. "How Trump Can Back Up from North Korea Comments," *Political Violence @ A Glance*, 11 August.

2016. "So China Seized a U.S. Drone Submarine? Welcome to the Future of International Conflict," Monkey Cage, *The Washington Post* (Online), 23 December.

2016. "New Declaration on UAV Exports Unlikely to Reduce Drone Proliferation," *Lawfare*, 20 November.

2015. "Turkey Shot Down a Russian Bomber: What Does Escalation Look Like?," *War on the Rocks*, 25 November.

2014. "Top Gun With Chinese Characteristics: Time to Clip the Wings of China's Mavericks," *The National Interest* (Online), 4 September.

2014. "Fraught Search for MH370 May Harden Regional Rivalries," *South China Morning Post*, 21 March.

Work in Progress

Working Papers

"The Drone Paradox: Drones and the Changing Calculus of International Signaling." (Invited contribution for edited volume)

"No Sunk Costs, No Tied Hands: Emerging Technology and Low Cost Crisis Coercion."

INVITED/CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

APSA Annual Conference: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
ISA Annual Conference: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

2026 Korea University
National University of Singapore
S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies
Philippine Public Safety College
Boston University, Pardee School
Harvard, Belfer Center
National Defense University, Eisenhower School
Seminar XXI
World Affairs Council of New Hampshire
European Political Science Society Conference

2025 Washington University in St Louis
Council on Foreign Relations
Princeton University
Charles University, Prague
Harvard, Belfer Center
MIT Lincoln Laboratory
University of Copenhagen
Dartmouth College
Tufts University

2024 Carleton University
Naval War College

2023 RAND Corporation
Singapore Civil Service College
Dartmouth College
Southern Methodist University
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy
Pacific International Politics Conference
University of Pennsylvania, Perry World House
University of California, Berkeley

2022 University of Haifa
Hoover Institution, Stanford University
Highline Arts Project
U.S. Department of State
U.S. Army War College

2021 University of Oslo
Georgetown University
Oxford University, Changing Character of War Center
Harvard Kennedy School

Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgetown University Wargaming Seminar
MIT Lincoln Laboratory

2020 George Washington University
U.S. Air Force Academy
Cato Institute
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
Norwegian Foreign Ministry

2019 ISA ISSS-IS Conference
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Bard College
Georgia Institute of Technology
Stanford University
University of Pennsylvania, Perry World House
Headquarters, US Air Forces Europe

2018 American University
George Mason University
Texas A&M University
Cato Institute

2016 Tobin Project Graduate Student Workshop
King's College London
Headquarters UK Army

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

External

2024-25 Eric and Wendy Schmidt Fund for Strategic Innovation ($65,750)
2022-23 Fellow, Dickey Center, Dartmouth College
2021 International Strategy Forum Fellow, Schmidt Futures
2020- Adjunct Senior Fellow, Center for a New American Security
2020 APSA Merze Tate Award for best dissertation in international relations, law, and politics
2020 Out in National Security Leadership List
2019-20 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Perry World House, University of Pennsylvania
2018-19 Predoctoral Fellowship, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University
2018 Morris Abrams Award in International Relations ($6,000)
2017 Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Grant and Irving Louis Horowitz Award ($12,500)
2017 Eisenhower Roberts Graduate Fellowship ($10,000)
2017 Smith Richardson Foundation Word Politics and Statecraft Fellowship ($7,500)
2016 Tobin Project Graduate Student Fellowship ($1,000)

Internal

2024 MIT Office of Graduate Education, Committed to Caring Award
2023 MIT Graduate Student Council, Frank E. Perkins Award for Excellence in Graduate Advising
2021 MIT School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences James A. and Ruth Levitan Teaching Award
2019 Columbia Experimental Laboratory in the Social Sciences Seed Grant, with Theo Milonopoulos ($1,000)
2016 Harriman Institute PepsiCo Summer Travel Grant ($2,200)
2016 Columbia University Department of Political Science Dissertation Development Grant ($2,500)
2013-17 Columbia University Dean's/Teaching Fellow

TEACHING

2024 MIT Office of Graduate Education, Committed to Caring Award
2023 MIT Graduate Student Council Frank E. Perkins Award for Excellence in Graduate Advising
2021 MIT School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences James A. and Ruth Levitan Teaching Award

Causes of War: Theory and Method (Graduate)
The Politics of Emerging Military Technology (Graduate)
Simulating Global Dynamics and War (Graduate)
Emerging Technology and International Security (Undergraduate)
U.S. National Security Policy (Undergraduate)
MIT Wargaming Institute (Graduate)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

United States Air Force

Intelligence Officer & Political-Military Affairs Strategist. Reserve (2013-Present). Active Duty (2009-2013)
Fully Joint Qualified Officer (Level III).
Rank: Lieutenant Colonel

820th Intelligence Squadron **Offutt AFB, NE**
Commander *May 2025-Present*
Leads a 70-member squadron that provides targeting and geospatial analysis to combatant commands.
Selected as the 2025 655th Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Wing Unit of the Year.

718th Intelligence Squadron **Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA**
Director of Operations *January 2024-May 2025*
Led operations and training for 110 airmen responsible for real-time intelligence analysis.

The Joint Staff. Strategy, Plans and Policy Directorate (J5) **Washington, DC**
Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) to Americas Division Chief *December 2019-December 2023*
Political-Military Planner
Supported interagency planning and coordination of defense policy issues for the Western Hemisphere.

The Joint Staff. Operations Directorate (J32) **Washington, DC**
Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) Operations Officer *July 2018-December 2019*
Supported global force management initiatives and analyzed emerging capabilities.

64th Intelligence Squadron **Wright-Patterson AFB, OH**
Team Officer in Charge *June 2016-June 2018*
Led a six-member operations team.

Headquarters Air Force, Intelligence Strategy and Plans Directorate **Washington, DC**
Deputy Branch Chief (IMA), Analysis Strategy and Policy *December 2014-June 2016*
Developed intelligence analysis policy and doctrine for the Air Force intelligence enterprise.

Air Force Intelligence Analysis Agency **Washington, DC**
Political-Military Affairs Analyst *August 2013-November 2014*
Provided strategic analysis for senior officials including the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

13th Intelligence Squadron **Beale AFB, CA**
Flight Commander, ISR Operations *August 2010-July 2013*
Led a team of 125 analysts providing real-time support to national agencies and coalition combat forces.

Department of Defense Criminal Investigation Task Force **Ft Belvoir, VA**
Deputy Director (J2), Intelligence Support *January 2012-April 2012*
Coordinated interagency intelligence support for military tribunals of suspected terrorists.

US Air Forces Central Command **Al Udeid, Qatar & Kandahar, Afghanistan**
Theater ISR Plans Officer *June 2011-December 2011*
Oversaw deployment of intelligence assets, personnel, and plans across Central Command area of operations. Forward deployed to Kandahar to assist with activation of new expeditionary squadron.

315th Training Squadron **Goodfellow AFB, TX**
Student, Intelligence Officer Course *September 2009-August 2010*
Distinguished Graduate and Gen. Michael V. Hayden Award recipient.

Professional Military Education:
National Defense University, Reserve Component National Security Course (2025)
Air War College (2024, Distance Learning)
Joint Forces Staff College, Joint and Combined Warfighting School (2022, Hybrid)
Air Command and Staff College (2019, Distance Learning)
Squadron Officer School (2014, In-Residence, Distinguished Graduate)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICE

Affiliations

Member, American Political Science Association
Member, International Studies Association

Service to the University

Burchard Faculty Fellow, MIT School of Humanities Arts and Social Sciences (2021-2024)
Member, Dean's Action Group, MIT Schwarzman College of Engineering (Fall 2021)

Service to the Department

Member, International Relations Junior Faculty Search Committee (2024)
Member, Comparative Politics Junior Faculty Search Committee (2021)
Member, Graduate Admissions Committee (2020-2021, 2023-2024)
Faculty Sponsor, Wargaming Working Group (2020-Present)
Faculty Sponsor, Security Studies Working Group (2021-2022)

Service to the Field

Editorial Board Member: *Foreign Policy Analysis*
Director/Fellow, Bridging the Gap Project (2015-2025)
Reviewer: *American Journal of Political Science*, *Artificial Intelligence and Society*, *Asian Perspectives*, *Asian Security*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *Congress and the Presidency*, *Contemporary Security Policy*, *Ethics and International Affairs*, *European Journal of International Security*, *Foreign Policy Analysis*, *International Interactions*, *International Organization*, *International Peacekeeping*, *International Security*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *International Studies Perspectives*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Experimental Political Science*, *Journal of Global Security Studies*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Journal of Political Science Education*, *Journal of Politics*, *Perspectives on Politics, Political Science Quarterly*, *Research and Politics*, *Security Studies*, *Simulation & Gaming*, *Terrorism and Political Violence*, *Texas National Security Review*, Time-sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences; Georgetown University Press, Polity, Bloomsbury Press, Edward Elgar Publishing.